



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Toshifumi HASHIBA et al.**

Group Art Unit: **1713**

Application Number: **10/527,636**

Examiner: **Robert D. HARLAN**

Filed: **March 15, 2005**

Confirmation Number: **9540**

For: **FLAT PARTICLES AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME**

Attorney Docket Number: **043198**

Customer Number: **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2)**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 19, 2007

Sir:

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08.

A copy of each non- U.S. document is attached. Additionally, enclosed is a Supplemental European Search Report dated May 2, 2007, issued in corresponding European Patent Application Number 03 79 7572.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) is below.

Information Disclosure Statement under 1.97(c)(2)  
Attorney Docket No. 043198  
Serial No. 10/527,636

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)**

The undersigned hereby states,

That each item of information contained in the instant Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**



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LCW/af

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08  
Documents



<b>Combined Form PTO/SB/08A&amp;B</b>  <b><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u></b> <b><u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/527,636
				Confirmation Number	9540
				Filing Date	March 15, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Toshifumi HASHIBA
				Art Unit	1713
Examiner Name	Robert D. HARLAN				
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	043198

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
	1.	EP	1 344 795	A2	09-17-2003	NISSHINBO INDUSTRIES, INC.	
	2.	EP	1 258 290	A2	11-20-2002	KAO CORPORATION	
	3.	EP	1 266 908	A1	12-18-2002	SEKISUI PLASTICS CO., LTD.	
	4.	WO	95/10995	A1	04-27-1995	THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY	
	5.	WO	91/15177	A1	10-17-1991	THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY	
	6.	EP	0 566 118	A1	10-20-1993	KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION	
	7.	WO	99/11703	A1	03-11-1999	BIOTECH AUSTRALIA PTY. LIMITED	
	8.	WO	97/49387	A1	12-31-1997	G.D. SEARLE AND CO.	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
	9.	Supplemental European Search Report dated May 2, 2007, issued in corresponding European Patent Application Number 03 79 7572.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.